

REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant respectfully requests acknowledgment of the entire Information Disclosure Statement (“IDS”) filed January 9, 2004. Applicant also requests acknowledgment of Japanese reference no. 8-95532 that was listed on the December 11, 2003 IDS. The Examiner initialed every other reference on the IDS except for this one. No explanation was given for the omission. The Examiner may acknowledge the statements by submitting initialed Forms PTO-1449.

As a second preliminary matter, pending claim 9 of the present Application has not been rejected by the Examiner. Applicant must therefore presume that claim 9 contains allowable subject matter, and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-3 and 6-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yamaguchi (U.S. 6,329,975). Claims 1-3 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice herein, rendering the rejection of these claims now moot. With respect to independent claim 7 (and its dependent claim 8), Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because the cited reference does not disclose or suggest that a start timing of a display is independent of horizontal and vertical synchronizing signals externally supplied, as in independent claim 7, as amended.

The Examiner correctly acknowledges that Yamaguchi does not actually disclose that the start timing of the display is independent of the synchronizing signals. The Examiner relies only upon Yamaguchi’s own admitted prior art, as disclosed in Figs. 2A-B

for somehow teaching such features. Figs. 2A-B, however, do not show that the start timing of the display is independent of the horizontal and vertical synchronizing signals, as incorrectly asserted by the Examiner.

Fig. 2A clearly shows that the start of display data (rising edge pulse labeled “A”) is directly dependent on the horizontal synchronizing signal. Although the two signals do not start at exactly the same time, Yamaguchi shows that the start of the display data is dependent on the horizontal synchronizing signal with only an added timing delay H_{bp} , which delay is still directly linked to the switching timing of the horizontal synchronizing signal. Yamaguchi expressly describes that this timing delay H_{bp} is for a “specified length” and that the start of the display always occurs upon this lapse of the delay length H_{bp} from the switching timing of the horizontal synchronizing signal. Accordingly, Yamaguchi clearly teaches in Fig. 2A that the start of the display data is dependent on at least the switching timing of the horizontal synchronizing signal.

Furthermore, as further disclosed in Fig. 3 of Yamaguchi, the data enable signal detection circuit 11, which detects the data enable signal, supplies a select signal to the selectors 8 and 9 to switch between the display fixing mode and the display control mode. The display fixing mode is shown to control the timing of the gate driver 2 and the source driver 3 in response to the gate start pulse signal V_{sp1} and the source start pulse signal H_{sp1} generated by the start pulse generating circuit 6. The display control mode, on the other hand, is shown to control the timing of the gate driver 2 and the source driver 3 in response to

the signals V_{sp1} and H_{sp1} generated by the start pulse generating circuit 7 based on the data enable signal. In other words, Yamaguchi clearly teaches that its apparatus requires both the display fixing mode and the display control mode to function, thereby having to switch between these two modes of very different functions.

In contrast, claim 7 of the present invention recites, among other things, that the start timing of the display data is independent of both the horizontal and vertical synchronizing signals. A simple comparison of Figs. 7-9 of the present Application with Figs. 2A-B of Yamaguchi, for example, demonstrates that Yamaguchi does not support the Examiner's assertions regarding the synchronizing signals being independent of the start of display. The fact that Yamaguchi's display data only begins after a specified delay from the horizontal synchronizing signal does not negate its dependency on the horizontal synchronizing signal. Yamaguchi expressly teaches that the prior art system requires both of the vertical and horizontal synchronizing signals, among others, to control the display of data (see col. 3, lines 13-23).

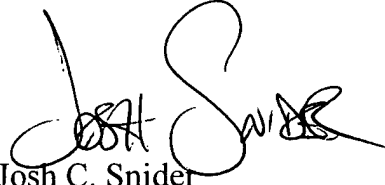
Additionally, although no further amendment to claim 7 should be necessary to overcome the outstanding rejection for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicant has further amended claim 7 herein to even more clearly emphasize these differences between the present invention and Yamaguchi. Specifically, claim 7 now more clearly features that the present display device has only a display timing control mode in which the display timing is responsive to the data enable signal, and no other timing control mode in which the display

timing is independent of the data enable signal. As discussed above, Yamaguchi cannot read upon these features of the present invention either. Accordingly, the outstanding Section 102 rejection of claims 7-8 is respectfully traversed for any and all of these reasons.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application, including claims 7-9, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 8, 2006

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